**CONGRESSMAN** 

### ANTONIO DELGADO NY-19

# Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act:

Funding Opportunities for Local Governments



#### **Background:**

The Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) represents the largest long-term investment in American infrastructure and competitiveness in nearly a century. With hundreds of billions of dollars in new funding over the next five years to repair roads and bridges, build out broadband, and upgrade rural water systems, this new law will deliver for upstate New York.

This generational investment in America's infrastructure is long-overdue. Congress has talked about passing comprehensive infrastructure legislation for years—but time and time again, it proved to be all talk and no action. Finally, Congress has delivered.

Since the IIJA was signed into law in November 2021, federal agencies have been gradually announcing information about new competitive funding opportunities for local governments. As these programs begin to open for applications, I want to ensure that local leaders across NY-19 are aware of new grant opportunities.

My office has put together a list of grant programs that will soon be available to local governments. As always, please do not hesitate to contact my office if I can be of assistance as you pursue these opportunities.

Sincerely,

Antonio

#### **TRANSPORTATION**

- 1. Rebuilding American Infrastructure Sustainably and Equitably (RAISE) Grants This existing competitive grant program at the Department of Transportation provides \$7.5 billion with an additional \$7.5 billion subject to Congressional approval in funding for road, rail, transit, and other surface transportation of local and/or regional significance. Selection criteria safety, sustainability, equity, economic competitiveness, mobility, and community connectivity. More information available <a href="HERE">HERE</a>. Applications are expected to open in the first quarter of 2022.
- 2. Bus & Bus Facilities Competitive Grants This existing \$2 billion program at the Department of Transportation provides capital funding to replace, rehabilitate, purchase, or lease buses and bus related equipment and to rehabilitate, purchase, construct, or lease bus-related facilities as well as capital funding for low or no emissions bus projects. More information available <a href="HERE">HERE</a>. Applications are expected to open in the first quarter of 2022.
- **3. Rural Surface Transportation Grant** This new \$2 billion competitive grant program at the Department of Transportation will improve and expand surface transportation infrastructure in rural areas, increasing connectivity, improving safety and reliability of the movement of people and freight, and generate regional economic growth. This amount includes specific set asides for small projects (\$200 million), rural roadway lane departure improvements (\$300 million), and the Appalachian Development Highway System (\$500 million). **Applications are expected to open in the first quarter of 2022.**
- **4. Infrastructure for Rebuilding America (INFRA) Grants** This Department of Transportation program supports highway and rail projects of regional and economic significance. **More information available <u>HERE</u>**. **Applications are expected to open in the first quarter of 2022. Learn more about how to apply <u>HERE</u>.**

### TRANSPORTATION (Cont.)

- **5. Safe Streets and Roads for All** This new \$5 billion competitive grant program at the Department of Transportation will provide funding directly to and exclusively for local governments to support their efforts to advance "vision zero" plans and other complete street improvements to reduce crashes and fatalities, especially for cyclists and pedestrians. **Applications are expected to open in May 2022.**
- **6. Charging and Fueling Infrastructure Grants** In addition to the \$5 billion formula program distributed to states, this \$2.5 billion discretionary grant program at the Department of Transportation will fund the strategic deployment of publicly accessible electric vehicle charging infrastructure, as well as hydrogen, propane, and natural gas fueling infrastructure, along designated alternative fuel corridors and in communities. **The Department is seeking comments on program HERE.**
- **7. Clean School Bus Program** This new \$5 billion competitive grant program at the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) will provide funding to replace existing school buses with low- or zero-emission school buses. **Applications are expected to open in the spring of 2022.**
- **8. Bridge Investment Program** This new \$12.2 billion competitive grant program at the Department of Transportation will fund the replacement and rehabilitation of bridges on the National Bridge Inventory. **More information on applications is forthcoming.**

### **BROADBAND & CYBER**

- 1. ReConnect Program This existing Department of Agriculture program will provide almost \$2 billion in loans and grants for projects that provide broadband in rural areas. More information available <a href="HERE">HERE</a>. Applications will likely open in the 3rd quarter of 2022 (Towns in rural areas can apply to the current \$1.15B in loans and grant funding. Application deadline: February 22, 2022).
- **2. Rural Broadband Access Loan and Loan Guarantee Program** This existing Department of Agriculture program) make loans and loan guarantees to finance construction, improvement, or acquisition of facilities and equipment needed to provide high speed broadband service in eligible rural areas. **More information on applications is forthcoming.**
- **3. Middle Mile Grants Program** This new \$1 billion program at the Department of Commerce provides grants for the construction, improvement, or acquisition of middle mile broadband infrastructure. **Applications will likely open during the second quarter of 2022.**
- **4. State and Local Cybersecurity Grant Program** This new \$1 billion program at the Department of Homeland Security makes available federal funds to state, local, and tribal governments to address cybersecurity risks and cybersecurity threats to information systems that they own or operate. Applications will likely open during the third quarter of 2022.
- **5. Smart Grid Investment Grant Program and Energy Sector Operational Support For Cyber Resilience Program** These two Department of Energy programs will provide \$3 billion and \$50 million, respectively, for electric utilities, including municipal and co-operative utilities, to modernize the electricity grid and increase resilience to cybersecurity threats. **Applications for the Smart Grid program are expected to be open by the end of 2022, and applications for the Cyber Resilience program are expected to be open in the summer of 2022.**

## CLEAN WATER & DRINKING WATER

- 1. Clean Water State Revolving Fund This existing Environmental Protection Agency program will provide \$11.7 billion in long-term, below market rate loans to address water quality problems through wastewater facility construction, upgrades, or expansions, nearly half of which will be grants or forgivable loans. Communities will apply as sub-applicants under their states. More information available HERE. Learn more about applying HERE. The New York State Environmental Facilities Corporation's deadline for 2023 funding is June 17, 2022.
- **2. Drinking Water State Revolving Fund** This existing Environmental Protection Agency program will provide \$11.7 billion in long-term, below market rate loans to community and non-profit, non-community public water systems to finance infrastructure improvement projects, nearly half of which will be grants or forgivable loans. Communities will apply as sub-applicants under their states.
- More information available <u>HERE</u>. Learn more about applying <u>HERE</u>. The New York State Environmental Facilities Corporation's deadline for 2023 funding is in July, 2022.
- **3. Lead Pipe Replacement** This new Environmental Protection Agency program will provide \$15 billion lead service line replacement projects and associated activities directly connected to the identification, planning, design, and replacement of lead service lines. This funding will be distributed through the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund. **Learn more about applying HERE. The New York State Environmental Facilities Corporation's deadline for 2023 funding is in July, 2022.**

### CLIMATE, ENERGY & ENVIRONMENT

- **1. Flood Mitigation Assistance** \$3.5 billion from this existing FEMA program can be used for projects that reduce or eliminate the risk of repetitive flood damage to buildings insured by the <u>National Flood Insurance Program</u>. Communities will apply as sub-applicants under their states. **More information available <u>HERE</u>. Applications for FY22 are expected to open no later than September 30th, 2022.**
- **2. Energy Improvement in Rural or Remote Areas** This new Department of Energy program will provide \$1 billion to entities in rural or remote areas (defined as cities, towns, or unincorporated areas with fewer than 10,000 inhabitants) to increase environmental protection from the impacts of energy use and improve resilience, reliability, safety, and availability of energy. **Applications for funding are expected to be open in the fall of 2022.**
- **3. Brownfields Remediation Program** This existing EPA program will provide \$1.2 billion in grants and technical assistants to communities to assess and safely clean-up contaminated properties and offer job training programs. Communities are currently able to request funding for Targeted Brownfields Assessments through their regional EPA office. **More information available HERE. Additional competitive funding opportunities will be announced in the spring of 2022.**
- **4. Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grants** This Department of Energy block grant program will provide \$550 million to states, local governments, and tribes for projects that reduce energy use, increase energy efficiency, and cut pollution. **More information available HERE. Applications for funding are expected to be open in the fall of 2022.**
- 5. Grants for Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy Improvements in Schools

   This new Department of Energy Program will provide \$500 million for local
  government education agencies and nonprofit partners to make energy efficiency,
  renewable energy, and clean vehicle upgrades and improvements at public schools.

  Applications for funding are expected to be open in the fall of 2022.

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